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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: David Stanley McGrath, et al. ) Re: Preliminary Amendment  
Serial No.: Not yet assigned ) Group: 2644  
Filing date: concurrently herewith ) Examiner: B. Pendleton  
For: "SOUNDFIELD PLAYBACK FROM A SINGLE SPEAKER SYSTEM" ) Our Ref: B-3630CONT 618749-4  
  ) Date: April 20, 2001

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
BOX NEW PATENT APPLICATION  
Washington, D.C., 20231

Sir:

The above-identified application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/285,497 filed March 31, 1999. Prior to examining this continuation application, it is respectfully requested that the following amendments be made to the claims:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace Claims 1 and 4 with new amended Claims 1 and 4 which are set forth below. (Appendix A, which is enclosed herewith, shows how Claims 1 and 4 were amended to produce new amended Claims 1 and 4.)

1.(Twice amended) An apparatus for playback of multi-channel sound signals with at least two channels including substantially orthogonal spatialisation characteristics, said apparatus comprising:

a decoder for converting said multi-channel sound signals into a series of speaker outputs for virtual speakers placed in pre-determined positions around a listener and projecting sound towards a listener, with the projection direction of at least two of said virtual speakers being substantially orthogonal;

a single speaker cabinet;

a multiplicity of speaker elements arranged around said cabinet, said speaker elements coupled with predetermined ones of said series of speaker outputs, with at least two of said speaker elements having substantially orthogonal projection directions from said single speaker cabinet and being coupled to substantially orthogonal virtual speaker outputs of said decoder.

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